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## Letter dated 27 January 2003 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

As you are aware, my Adviser for Special Assignments in Africa, Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, is participating actively in promoting the peace process in Angola. The efforts he has made have had a positive impact on the relationship between the Angolan Government and the United Nations. On 14 September 2002, I appointed Mr. Gambari as my Special Representative for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1433 (2002), of 15 August 2002.

Mr. Gambari successfully chaired the Joint Commission, an instrument for expanded dialogue between the Government and the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA), with the participation of the Troika of observers (Portugal, the Russian Federation and the United States of America), designed to find a solution to issues relating to national reconciliation and the accomplishment of the tasks remaining under the Lusaka Protocol (S/1994/1441, annex). The Joint Commission completed its work on 21 November 2002 and Mr. Gambari returned to Headquarters, where he is continuing to perform his functions as non-resident Special Representative, and is helping the Angolan authorities and UNITA to overcome the difficulties associated with the social reintegration of demobilized persons, encouraging respect for human rights and working for national reconciliation.

In addition, Mr. Gambari regularly gives me advice on other issues relating to Africa and on the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa. In the context of the proposals I have submitted to the General Assembly with a view to carrying forward the reform process, I have decided to entrust to Mr. Gambari additionally the task of coordinating and guiding the preparation of special reports on Africa in the Secretariat and to place under his responsibility the resources allocated to the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries.

Mr. Gambari will continue to give me advice on certain issues relating to Africa, at my request, and is still associated with the initiatives to strengthen peace in Angola, harmonizes the support of the Secretariat for the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly, and coordinates and guides the preparation of reports relating to Africa in the Secretariat.

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For the reasons set forth above, I have therefore decided to extend until 28 February 2004 the mandate of Mr. Gambari in his capacity as Adviser for Special Assignments in Africa.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**